GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4852
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2005
ERADICATION OF DISEASES
Barman Shri Ranen

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Leprosy, Malaria, Polio, T.B., Cancer etc have been eradicated in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the amount spent on eradication of the above diseases in the country during the last three years and till date, State-wise ;and

(e) the details of amount of funds earmarked for the purpose during 2004-2005?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): No, Sir. Leprosy, Malaria, Polio, T.B., Cancer etc. have not yet been eradicated in the country. The position disease-wise is as follows:

(i) Leprosy: Under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme, the goal is to achieve national elimination of leprosy by December, 2005, which means to bring down the prevalence rate to below 1 case per 10,000 population. At present the prevalence rate in the country is 1.45 and the country is all set to achieve the elimination status by December 2005.

(ii) Malaria: In the case of malaria, a vector borne disease, eradication in the strict sense is not technically feasible. The National Health Policy, 2002 has set as its goal reduction in mortality rate by 50% by 2010.

(iii) Polio: In the year 2004, 136 polio cases were reported in the country. In the year 2005 from Ist of January upto 14th March, 2005, 14 cases have been reported. Government has taken several immunization rounds to eradicate polio.

(iv) TB: TB is a major public health problem in the country. About 18 lakhs new TB cases are occurring every year. It is estimated that about 4 lakh people die of TB every year in the country. In the case of TB as in the case of Malaria, the goal as per National Health Policy, 2002 is to reduce mortality by 50% by 2010.

To control the disease, revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP), widely known as DOTS, a WHO recommended strategy is being implemented since year 1997 in a phased manner. This has its objective achieving a cure rate of 85% of new sputum positive cases and to detect at least 70% of such cases.

(v) Cancer: As regards Cancer, it is estimated that there are about 25 lakh cancer patients at any point of time in the country. There are 7-9 lakh new cancer patients every year. Cancer is one of the non-communicable disease which cannot be eradicated.

(d) and (e): The requisite information is being collected.